

Meeting called to order in the BOS Meeting Room at the Milford Town Hall at 7:00

Present:

Full members: Audrey Fraizer, Chair; Kim Rimalover, V. Chair; Andy Hughes, Becky Lorette, Diane Morin, Hub Seward, Janet Urquhart, Alternate members: Chris Costantino, Andy Seale
Guests: Dave Wheeler; Dan Reed, New England Forestry Consultants

Minutes: April 12th meeting were accepted as presented on a motion by Kim, seconded by AndyS.
Unanimous

Discussion Items

1. Wheeler Bridge Acceptance – A steel beamed wooden bridge designed, constructed, delivered and installed by Dave and James Wheeler was formally accepted by the commission on a motion by Andy H, seconded by Becky, unanimous approval of the MCC. For insurance purposes, Chris and Dave Wheeler estimated the bridge's value to be \$3,970.00. The bridge will be accepted by the BOS on behalf of the town on May 14.
2. Souhegan River Trail Signage – the east end of the Souhegan River Trail (SRT) needs to be marked. The commission will leave it to the discretion of the Trails Committee for the best location of the trailhead kiosk – but it should be near the parking area of the Masonic Temple and visible for walkers in Emerson Park. A hiker sign could be posted near the top of the steps near the Post Office. Trail should be blazed appropriately – using stencils on the sidewalk to direct hikers toward the MCAA fields. Chris will check for permission to mark along the road.
3. Tucker Brook Town Forest – Dan Reed of New England Forestry Consultants talked with the commission about Timber Harvest #1 in the Tucker Brook Management Plan. This area in the southeast corner of Tucker Brook hasn't been timbered recently because of access difficulties. The objectives of the timber harvest are to improve forest health, improve wildlife habitat and maintain hiking trails. This will be a selective harvest to remove the mature trees; thin areas where timber density is hindering growth, and open up some large patches to allow natural die-off of rampant laurel to promote timber regeneration.
 - a. MCC will walk the timber harvest area with DReed on May 24 at 6:30. Meet at Boulder Drive entrance of the TBTF.
 - b. Won't be able to start the timber harvest until an access road is built – see Item #4
 - c. Discussed shared costs with DWheeler for constructing the access road. He would accept materials as in-kind donation, rather than cash, as a share of the cost. The MCC will ask for some sort of long-term or permanent ROW; especially if we contribute to the cost of road construction.
 - d. The MCC will plan 2 public information sessions at the town forest – one before and the other during the timber harvest.
4. Wheeler Minimum Impact Expedited Wetlands (MIEW) Permit - Map 40 Lot 17
 - a. Dave Wheeler presented his MIEW Permit to the MCC. He would like to have a permanent wetland crossing to access the northwest corner of his property for christmas tree production and timber harvest. Collis Adams, NHDES Wetlands Bureau, also visited the site at Dave Wheeler's request. He asked that Dave set the culvert bottom 6" lower than ground level so that any flowing water could deposit material to recreate a more natural surface within the culvert for wildlife movement.
 - b. DWheeler plans to do the work in mid to late summer once the soil has dried out.
 - c. On a motion by Andy S, seconded by Kim and unanimous approval of the MCC, Audrey signed the MIEW permit.
5. Pumpkin Festival – discussion about participation and possible fundraising ideas:
 - a. Concomm calendar – Chris will check with Peterborough for information
 - b. Natural cleaning products
 - c. Solar clothes dryer – thank you, Hub!
6. 2013 Expo
 - a. Schedule June work session for Expo planning
 - b. Ask Fred Elkind, former MCC coordinator, to help with the Expo preparation

- c. Look into other venues and keep the curtains
- 7. Hitchiner Town Forest
 - a. AndyH reported that the bird boxes in the south field need to be cleaned and/or replaced. This could be a Scout project.
 - b. At a minimum, keep the fields at current size. Ideally, volunteers should come in to clear small brush back to the stone walls.
- 8. 4th Sat Hike
 - a. May 26th at the Brookline parking area of the rail trail
 - b. Chris will leave a van at DPW to shuttle hikers back to their cars in Brookline
 - c. Becky will prepare a geocaching experience for anyone interested. <http://www.geocaching.com/>
- 9. Great Parks Pursuit 2012
 - a. Milford will be a host site for this program on July 28th from 11:00 – 2:00 at Keyes Field.
 - b. There will be 4 sequential activity stations – three of which will be run by the rec department. MCC will organize some sort of scavenger hunt/orienteering activity utilizing the Gregg Bridge and the portion of the SRT that extends behind the B&G Club. Kim will create a map of the trail and Becky will create the controls/treasures.